

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1). (currently amended) A device for anastomosis,  
comprising:

~~wherein the device comprises~~

a non-stent, tubular connecting element (2)  
having a first proximal end (2a) and a second distal end  
(2b), the tubular element exhibiting, in a longitudinal  
section and prior to implanting, a truncoconical profile  
with a decreasing transversal section in a direction going  
from the first proximal end to the second distal end; and  
~~bears~~

a plurality of outwardly-projecting slender  
elements (3) arranged in proximity of ~~at least one of the~~  
first proximal end (2a) ~~and the second end (2b);~~ and

~~is used in combination with a~~

an aortic prosthetic element (10) made of a  
biocompatible material to create a joint between ~~[[a]]~~ the  
prosthetic element and tracts of the aortic, the aortic

prosthetic element attachable to the first proximal end of the tubular connecting element by the slender elements completely puncturing through a wall of the aortic prosthetic element with free ends of the slender elements being exposed,

wherein the device is configured for implantation in the body ~~blood vessel~~.

2). (currently amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the free ends of the slender elements (3) ~~are arranged in proximity of the first end (2a) and exhibit a free end (3a) facing~~ face towards the second end (2b).

3). (currently amended) The device of claim 1, ~~wherein the device~~ further comprising: ~~exhibits a plurality of slender elements (3) projecting externally in proximity of the first end (2a) and a plurality of slender elements (3) projecting externally in proximity of the~~ second distal end (2b).

4). (currently amended) The device of claim 3, wherein the free ends of the slender elements (3) ~~exhibit a~~

~~free end (3a) facing towards~~ face an opposite end from an end at which the slender elements (3) are arranged.

5). (cancelled).

6). (currently amended) The device of claim [[5]] 4, wherein the slender elements (3) are arranged along a first circumference of the device which is proximal to the first proximal end (2a) and along a second circumference thereof which is proximal to the second distal end (2b).

7). (currently amended) The device of claim 6, wherein the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the first proximal end (2a) are reciprocally distanced at a smaller step with respect to a step at which the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the second distal end (2b) are reciprocally distanced so that there is a greater density of slender elements (3) at the first proximal end (2a) than at the second distal end (2b).

8). (currently amended) The device of claim 7, wherein the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the first proximal end (2a) are longer and more prominent

than the slender elements (3) arranged in proximity of the second distal end (2b).

9). (cancelled).

10. (currently amended) The device of claim 1, further comprising a suture, wherein the suture and slender elements are configured to be ~~may be~~ tightened around the tubular connecting element and wherein the tightening functions to puncture ~~a blood vessel~~ the tracks of the aortic with the plurality of outwardly-projecting slender elements.

11. (currently amended) A device for anastomosis, comprising:

a non-stent tubular connecting element comprising a first end, a second end, and a plurality of outwardly projecting slender elements arranged proximity at both ~~to at least one of the~~ ends; and

a tubular prosthesis comprising biocompatible material ~~[[,]]~~ to create a joint between ~~[[a]]~~ the tubular prosthetic element and tracts of a blood vessel, the prosthetic element attached to a proximal end of the

tubular connecting element by the slender elements  
completely puncturing through the prosthetic element,

wherein the tubular prosthesis is inserted into the tubular connecting element and folded around at least [[an]] the distal end of the tubular connecting element with outwardly projecting slender elements so that the outwardly-projecting slender elements puncture through an entire thickness of the tubular prosthesis, and

the device is configured for implantation in the  
body.

12. (currently amended) The device of claim [[10]] 11 further comprising a suture, wherein the suture may be tightened around the tubular connecting element and wherein the tightening functions to puncture [[a]] the blood vessel with the plurality of outwardly-projecting slender elements.

13. (currently amended) A device for anastomosis, comprising:

a non-stent tubular connecting element (2) having a first proximal end (2a) and a second end (2b), ~~each end~~ and bearing a plurality of outwardly-projecting slender

elements (3) arranged in proximity of at least ~~one of the~~  
first proximal end (2a) ~~and the second end (2b)~~; and

a tubular prosthesis (10) of biocompatible material inserted into the tubular connecting element (2) and folded around at least one end of the tubular connecting element with the outwardly-projecting slender elements puncturing the tubular prosthesis, the tubular prosthesis being free of connection to the other end of the tubular connecting element,

wherein the device is configured for implantation in the body

, and

a suture tightened around the tubular connecting element and a blood vessel punctured by the outwardly-projecting slender elements.

14. (currently amended) The device of claim 1, wherein,

the prosthetic element (10) is passed into the tubular connecting element 2 with a segment of the prosthetic element (10) externally folded over the first end (2a),

the segment of prosthetic element (10) folded over the first end (2a) is fastened on the slender elements (3) with the slender elements (3) penetrate completely in and through a wall of the prosthetic element (10), exiting from the wall by the free ends (3a) of the slender elements (3),

~~the prosthetic element (10) is not circumferentially elastic, and~~

the prosthetic element (10) exhibits a free end projecting from the second end (2b) of the tubular connecting element (2), ~~the free end of the prosthetic element (10) for connection to an aortic prosthesis.~~

15. (new) The device of claim 11, wherein,

the first end is the proximal end,

the second end is the distal end, and

the tubular connecting element (2) exhibits, in a longitudinal section and prior to implantation, a truncoconical profile with a decreasing transversal section in a direction going from the proximal end to second distal end.

16. (new) The device of claim 13, further comprising:

a suture tightenable around the tubular connecting element to puncture a blood vessel with the outwardly-projecting slender elements, wherein,

the first end is the proximal end,

the second end is the distal end, and

the tubular connecting element (2) exhibits, in a longitudinal section and prior to implantation, a truncoconical profile with a decreasing transversal section in a direction going from the proximal end to second distal end.

17. (new) The device of claim 14, wherein,

the prosthetic element (10) is circumferentially inelastic.

18. (new) The device of claim 1, wherein,

the prosthetic element (10) is circumferentially inelastic.